

GREENBELT MEADOWS NEIGHBORHOOD 2013 RTD ECO-PASS CAMPAIGN

We are kicking off our 2013 RTD EcoPass Renewal Campaign a little early this year because of major changes to the program beginning in 2013. RTD will be converting our current EcoPass cards to a SmartPass card by the end of the year, so we need to get rosters with some additional information to them about a month earlier than normal (by October 1).

RTD will be using the data we collect to issue the SmartCards. They have many pictures already in their database, but **if you have a laminated card issued at the original photo-shoot at the clubhouse in January 2005, you will need to submit a new photo. We may hold a photo-shoot ourselves and submit the photos collectively -- we will let you know.**

In subsequent years, RTD will bill us based on the collective usage of all EcoPasses issued by the neighborhood instead of by number of households as is done now. Since we will not be paying by household, we will not have to pay any longer for homes that do not participate. But at this time it is unclear whether RTD will provide us with usage by household so that in subsequent years we will be able to bill households directly for their yearly usage. Since we will be paying by usage, it will be necessary for us to deactivate the passes held by a family that moves out of the neighborhood in 2013.

Even if you have not participated in the past, we urge you to join our program. Commuting by bus is a great way to save money, reduce stress, and get a little exercise walking to the bus stop. Also remember that once we obtain the neighborhood Eco-Pass, **everyone in your household (including renters) receives their own individual pass.**

Please also note that **the RTD EcoPass that you receive under this program is a REGIONAL pass**, valid for bus and light rail use on any scheduled route in the entire Metro area. The passes that your K-12 children can buy through the schools are only **LOCAL passes**. You can use the RTD EcoPass to reach Longmont, Louisville, Golden, Denver, Eldora Ski Resort, and now even Fort Collins. You cannot use the Broncos and Rockies rides since they are not scheduled services. RTD will charge \$2.50 each way for the SkyRide to/from DIA with the EcoPass.

There will be no assessment increase for 2013. Any extra money collected during our drive will be used if our fund drive falls short in some subsequent year. No one but you knows what the pass is worth to your household, but we urge you to contribute a fair amount based on the projected use of the passes by your household. The following table provides you with examples of the fares.

FARE	2013
1 person RT Boulder to DIA (\$5 with EcoPass)	\$ 26.00
1 student daily commute to school (monthly pass)	39.50
1 person daily commute Boulder to Denver (monthly pass)	176.00
1 person daily local commute in Boulder (monthly pass)	79.00
1 person RT Boulder to Denver (regional ride)	10.00
1 person RT within Boulder (local ride)	4.50
1 ten-ride ticket book (local)	20.00

The following table provides you with suggested contribution guidelines based on your projected family use of the RTD Eco-Pass.

FARE	Annual Cost	Suggested Contribution
2 people, two RT Boulder to DIA (\$26 RT fare x 4)	\$ 104	\$ 60
1 student daily commute to school (9 monthly local passes)	355	160
2 students daily commute to school (9 monthly local passes)	710	300
1 person daily commute Boulder to Denver (12 monthly express passes)	1936	800
1 person daily local commute in Boulder (12 monthly local passes)	869	400
1 person rides locally in Boulder round trip once per week	234	100
1 person rides regionally to Denver round trip once per month	120	60
1 person commutes locally twice a week for 9 months (18 trips/month for 9 months = 16 Ten-Ride ticket books)	320	150

Since our neighborhood will be billed for usage, if you have an option of obtaining your pass at a set price through your place of employment, you may want to assess whether your employer will be giving you a better deal than we can next year. Our discounted price after inclusion of the Boulder City discount will be approximately 45% of your total household usage. Parents of students at CU may want to make the same assessment -- the \$85 per semester (spring, summer, fall) fee may save you money over the deal we can offer you, considering that students may use their passes a lot. (See inset below for reimbursement of fees from CU.)

Please note that many local and regional buses have bicycle racks. So if a bus only gets you close to your destination, you can stow your bicycle on the front of the bus and have it available to finish your journey to your destination.

Please make an honest assessment of your needs and try to contribute approximately 50% of your RTD household usage.

Please make checks payable to **Boulder Building Blocks Fund** or **BBBF** (an organization that handles finances for neighborhoods) with **Greenbelt Meadows** in the memo field. Call **Chris at 303-250-7219** or **Barry at 303-494-0875** if you have any questions.

Your block representative will be going door-to-door within the next week or so, so please assess your household's RTD transportation needs in 2013 and contribute accordingly.

CU Pass Reimbursement

To get a waiver of the \$85 CU transit fee for the current semester, send an email (from your CU email address) to the CU Boulder Transportation Program Manager at brandon.c.smith@colorado.edu. State that you have a valid current Neighborhood Eco Pass, and request a waiver of the CU student transit fee. You will then subsequently have to stop by the CU Environmental Center at the UMC, Room 355, show the valid Neighborhood Eco Pass and sign the request form.

For any questions, contact the following:

Sustainable Transportation Office
Brandon Smith
Phone: 303-492-8414
Email: brandon.c.smith@colorado.edu

Our deadline for signing-up and collecting money is Sunday, September 23.

Eco Pass Extra

Show your Eco Pass at local businesses and get discounts.

Some examples:

- **Boulder Beer "The Pub":**
(Always happy hour prices)
- **Caffe Sole: 637R S. Broadway**
(15% discount)
- **Zeal Optics: 4843 Pearl Street**
(50% discount)

For more, go to <http://www.goboulder.net>, and click on *Bus* and then *Eco Pass Extra*.